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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, MAY 15, 1998

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

At the relation of the

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUE960296

Ex Parte: Investigation of Electric Utility Industry Restructuring -- Virginia Electric and Power Company

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR EXTENSION

On May 12, 1998, the Staff of the State Corporation Commission filed a report and a motion. The Staff states that it and several parties in the above-referenced proceeding are continuing to discuss the substantive issues in order to narrow the issues for hearing. Staff further states that while agreement has not been reached at this juncture, the current status of the discussions warrants continued efforts to reach agreement on significant issues. Staff therefore requests that the Commission extend the dates for the filing of rebuttal testimony from May 18 to May 26, for the filing of surrebuttal testimony from June 12 to June 19, and for the scheduled public hearing to commence on July 10, rather than July 9.

Also on May 12, 1998, the Virginia Committee for Fair Utility Rates ("Virginia Committee") filed a request for a schedule change and a report on the status of settlement discussions. The Virginia Committee states that the settlement discussions are continuing. It also states that two of its witnesses have made commitments for certain dates for which the hearing is currently scheduled and requests that the schedule be revised so as to ensure these witnesses have an opportunity to present their testimony. No party filed a response to the Staff's motion or the Virginia Committee's request.

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of Staff's motion to extend certain procedural dates and Virginia Committee's request, is of the opinion that it is in the public interest to grant Staff's request to extend the dates for the filing of rebuttal testimony from May 18 to May 26, for the filing of surrebuttal testimony from June 12 to June 19, and for the scheduled public hearing to begin on July 10, rather than July 9. No party has objected to the requested extension and we find that such extensions are warranted if they will facilitate the parties' attempts to narrow the issues to be addressed at the hearing.

With respect to the Virginia Committee's request to ensure that the two identified witnesses have an opportunity to present their testimony, we endeavor to accommodate parties in this respect whenever possible and see no reason, at this time, why the Virginia Committee's request cannot be accommodated.

IT IS ORDERED that:

(1) All rebuttal testimony shall be filed on or before May 26, and shall be served on the parties and Staff on or before that date;

- (2) All surrebuttal testimony shall be filed on or before June 19, and shall be served on the Staff and parties on or before that date;
- (3) The hearing shall begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's Second Floor Courtroom, Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, on July 10, 1998, rather than July 9, 1998.